

ECOS 2022 Spring Meeting

Roundtable & Open Discussion

Tuesday, April 5 at 3:15 - 4:05 p.m. Eastern

Session Participants:

- Sharlett Mena, Assistant to the Director, Washington Department of Ecology (moderator)
- Randy Chapman, Environmental Manager, Northern Regional Office Petroleum Program, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, and Co-Chair, Interstate Technology & Regulatory Council Board of Advisors
- Jane Nishida, Assistant Administrator, U.S. EPA Office of International & Tribal Affairs
- Karyn Schmidt, Senior Director, Regulatory & Technical Affairs, and International Team Leader, American Chemistry Council
- Eyal Harel, CEO and Co-Founder, BlueGreen Water Technologies

Session Description in Agenda:

As the war in Ukraine has shown us, international crises know no borders, and countries must work hand-in-hand to protect the global population. In fact, the Ukraine conflict has the potential to speed the transition toward cleaner sources of energy and spark new agreements on chemical and nuclear safety. This roundtable will highlight international environmental efforts that may influence and inspire states, including the United Nations' recent COP26 climate negotiations, the European Union's activities under its Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation, & Restriction of Chemicals (REACH) regulation in relation to U.S. efforts under the Toxic Substances Control Act, state and federal technical assistance around the world, and new technology solutions.

Speaker Considerations:

- Weblinks:
 - [[HYPERLINK "https://www.ecos.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/ECOS-Speaker-Guidelines-Spring-2022.pdf" \h](https://www.ecos.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/ECOS-Speaker-Guidelines-Spring-2022.pdf)]
 - [[HYPERLINK "https://www.ecos.org/event/2022-ecos-spring-meeting/" \h](https://www.ecos.org/event/2022-ecos-spring-meeting/)]
 - [[HYPERLINK "https://www.ecos.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/2022-ECOS-Spring-Meeting-Agenda-030422-.docx" \h](https://www.ecos.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/2022-ECOS-Spring-Meeting-Agenda-030422-.docx)]
- Making the Session Engaging:
 - ECOS encourages an atmosphere of open discussion versus a series of lengthy presentations. Toward that end, each roundtable panelist's opening remarks will be limited to five minutes, and at least one-third of the time in each roundtable will be set aside for open discussion among all attendees.
 - Sessions will consist of one moderator and 2-5 panelists. Moderators in some cases will also serve as presenters, and will kick off discussion with questions (no opening remarks from panelists).
 - One third of each session will be reserved for Q&A.

- Speakers and moderators are welcome to use PowerPoint, but please emphasize graphics and key words, and refrain from using text-heavy slides. If appropriate, videos may be used.
- Feel free to pose questions of other speakers in order to stimulate discussion. You may send these to your ECOS staff session lead ahead of the meeting if you'd like other participants to prepare.
- **Materials and Action Items:**
 - Speakers and moderators are welcome to use PowerPoint, but please emphasize graphics and key words, and refrain from using text-heavy slides. If appropriate, videos may be used.
 - **March 30:** Please send to [[HYPERLINK "mailto:shughes@ecos.org" \h](mailto:shughes@ecos.org)] any PowerPoints, videos, or materials to be shared.
 - ECOS will post links for relevant materials to the 2022 ECOS Spring Meeting webpage so that attendees can easily access them. About the Spring Meeting
- **Other**
 - The meeting is open to the press.
 - No formal record or report is generated by ECOS from the meeting, but light meeting notes will be taken.
 - The dress code is business casual.

Thank you for helping to make our meeting a success. We appreciate your participation and your enthusiasm for sharing your expertise!

Format:

- 50 minute roundtable, with 35 minutes for speaking and about 15 minutes for Q&A with the audience
- Key theme: Environment knows no borders, and approaches are the same for all of us. Important to coordinate, share best practices, and work together to implement important policies and activities.

Remarks:

Sharlett: (5 minutes for intro and focusing question, 5 min for New York presentation)

- Introduce the panel and the speakers
- Ask a focusing question of the panelists: The world is interconnected, and as we've seen in Ukraine, everyone is affected by the environment and how we handle adverse situations. How do we set the world stage for environmental protection?
 - Jane: mention impact of Russian aggression in Ukraine and what that means in terms of international and domestic supply chain, as seen in gas prices but also will affect states more and more as aggression continues
 - Randy: Role of subnational governments in international policies and activities. Also the impact of international policies and activities on states. Inward and outward perspective.

- Karyn:
- Eyal: every country uses technology, so sharing with each other how it can be accessed and used to improve environmental protection is critical.
- Bring it back into view from a Washington state perspective.
 - Highlight a few key experiences with COP26, WA as a border state with Canada, etc.
- Open it up to other speakers for presentations

Jane (5-6 minutes)

- Acknowledge the cross-boundary issues that New York poses, and add information about how EPA is addressing these issues:
 - In the Great Lakes (celebrating 50th anniversary of the Great Lakes Agreement), trans-boundary disputes
 - Work with the International Joint Commission in the Pacific Northwest on impacts of water quality in downstream states
 - Work along the Southern border like the Tijuana spill and how it is affecting California, wastewater treatment

Karyn (5-6 minutes)

- Discuss the intersection of chemical policies like TSCA (US) vs REACH (international) and similar policies, and touch on ACCs role/important considerations

Randy (5-6 minutes)

- We have states, feds, companies, and then groups like ITRC, which are really working at the bottom with the front line folks. ITRC has conducted many overseas training sessions and has learned/emphasizes that regardless of what side of the border you are on, the same approaches help us all. Science is Science regardless of the topic.
- Note that ITRC fact sheets have been translated into Spanish, and topics have changed over the years to address more current issues around the world

Eyal (5-6 minutes)

- At Bluegreen, there is an opportunity to discuss lessons learned to further international relationships.
- Discuss how international companies work with states, and provide a successful example from Florida

Audience Q&A (15 minutes)